

## MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Gary Wallyn, Director  
Division of Accreditation, Assistance, and Awards

DATE: February 23, 2007

RE: Approval of Professional Development Grants

Research-based professional development is the key to school improvement. In recognition of the importance of professional development, the General Assembly allocated money for professional development grants for use in the 2006-2007 school year (FY 06). Both public schools and accredited non-public schools (voluntarily accredited under IC 20-19-2-8) are included in the professional development grant program.

For schools that receive grant dollars in 2006-2007, the grant application is downloaded and submitted by email. The review process includes a look at individual school data, alignment of professional development and school improvement goals, and presence of the core principles of professional development in the goals and strategies. Review of the reports and grant applications also assures that review and revision of the school improvement plan occurred, as required by statute and State Board of Education rules (IC 20-10.2-3-3(a)(2) and 511 IAC 6.2-3-1(a)(2)).

Grant dollars will be distributed in two phases. After Board approval, districts will receive, for each school whose grant application has been approved, a \$3000 flat grant. A per pupil amount based on fall 2006 pupil enrollment will be distributed after school submittal and verification.

Recommendation- Approval of the grants that will be presented at the March 7, 2007 meeting.